



SPOT BURNING PERMIT

Spot Burn Definition.

The Spot burn permit is for those areas of ½ acre or less:

- Small Weed Patches
- Spots of heavy residue
- Equipment plugs and dumps

The spot burning permit is valid for the calendar year in which it was issued.

****This permit is not to be used for field scale burning where the burn will cover an area of over ½ acre.***

When is a Permit Required?

All burning by commercial agricultural operations require a permit except when burning orchard prunings, natural vegetation along fence lines, irrigation and drainage ditches or natural vegetation blown by the wind. You must still notify your fire protection authority even if an air quality permit is not required. We request that you also call the burn hotline **1 (800) 406-5322** to make sure it is a burn day; based on air quality criteria.

What is a Commercial Agricultural Operation?

The agricultural burning regulation (**WAC 173-430**) defines Agricultural Operation as a farmer who is practicing commercial agriculture and has filed an IRS schedule F or has other documentation showing that the land is designated for agricultural use.

How much does it cost?

A fee of \$25 is required by the agricultural burning regulation (**WAC 173-430**) for any burning under ten (10) acres. Of that fee, \$12.50 helps fund research into cleaner burning methods as well as alternatives to burning. The other \$12.50 is utilized by the Department of Ecology to implement and enforce the agricultural burning program.

When is burning allowed?

Burning is to occur during daylight hours only. In most cases, growers must call the Agricultural Burn Hotline (**1 (800) 406-5322**) for up-to-date local smoke ventilation conditions and burn only on declared burn days. Situations may exist when calling the burn hotline is not practical. In such cases, please make every attempt to burn only when emissions will be minimized (i.e. midday). You must notify your local fire district before burning.

Agricultural Burning Hotline
1 (800) 406-5322

Permit Application Steps

1. Fill out the information requested.
2. Attach a map showing where you expect to burn. The map should include section, township and range lines and roads. Identify acres/fields where spot burning will occur. (This may mean you map your entire farm.)
3. Sign and date the permit.
4. Mail the permit and your check for \$25 (non-refundable) to the following address:

Department of Ecology
Agricultural Burning Account
PO Box 5128
Lacey, WA 98509-5128

****Please complete reverse side***

Applicant Name:

Phone:

Business Name:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

Burn Location (if different from Mailing Address):

City:

County:

State:

Zip Code:

Fire Department/District (# and Name)

County:

Direction to Burn:

Contact Person:

Phone:

Please complete the following table with 1/4 Section(s), Section, Township and Range information which best describes your spot burn. Provide the reason for each burn, and the acreage you will designate for that purpose. Reason for burn must be completed. Also attach a map of the spot burn location(s).

Burn	Location			Acres	Crop Type	Reason	Expected Burn Date
	1/4 Section and Section	Township	Range				
Burn #1							
Burn #2							
Burn #3							
Burn #4							
Burn #5							

- Applicant Statements:
- ❖ *I verify this is a commercial agricultural operation as defined in WAC 173-430-030.*
 - ❖ *I understand the following: that “for the purpose of investigating conditions specific to the control, recovery or release of air contaminants into the atmosphere, a control officer, the department, or their duly authorized representatives, shall have the power to enter at reasonable times upon any private or public property, excepting non-multiple unit private dwellings housing two families or less. No person shall refuse entry or access to any control officer, the department, or their duly authorized representatives, who requests entry for the purpose of inspection, and who presents appropriate credentials; nor shall any person obstruct, hamper or interfere with any such inspection,” in accordance with RCW 70.94.200.*
 - ❖ *I understand that I must follow burn/no burn decisions by burning on designated burn days only insofar as practical and during designated hours in order to minimize air pollution in accordance with RCW 70.94.650.*
 - ❖ ***Burn only when smoke will be carried away from neighboring homes, roads, population centers or public areas.*** All growers burning under the spot burning permit must very carefully consider where upper level and ground level winds will carry the smoke from his/hers controlled burn. Regulations implementing the state Clean Air Act specify that the grower must burn only when:
 - ? *“Wind takes the smoke away from roads, homes, population center, or other public areas, to the greatest extent possible.” (WAC 713-430-070)*
 - ? *“No person shall cause or permit the emission of any air contaminant from any source if it is detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of any person, or causes damage to property or business.” (WAC 173-400-040(5))*

It is also the grower’s responsibility to not burn when high surface winds will not allow the smoke to rise. As a general rule, many experts suggest that if it is too windy to spray – it is too windy to burn.
 - ❖ *The information provided as part of this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.*



Statement of Permit Conditions

Permit applicants are required to follow and obey all applicable provisions of the Washington Clean Air Act, RCW 70.94 and WAC 173-430 Agricultural Burning.

The Applicant, if granted a permit, agrees to comply with the following conditions and any additional conditions contained in a permit or other application for permit

- 1. No burning during adverse weather conditions .**
 - You must call the Agricultural Burning Hotline at 1-800-406-5322 prior to burning.** If the message for your area states that it is a no-burn day, you may not legally burn. If the message says it is a burn day, you must still comply with your local fire protection agency’s decision if it determines it is a no-burn day. Compliance with burn bans put into effect by another department/county/city is a specific condition of this permit. The grower and the local fire department are responsible for fire safety.
 - Do not burn after or before the listed burn hours on the Ag Burn Hotline .** Do not burn before the earliest stated time. Fires must be completely out by the listed ending time. Burning after dark is *not* allowed.
- 2. Burn only when smoke will be carried away from neighboring homes, roads, population centers or public areas.** All growers burning under the agricultural burning permit program must very carefully consider where upper level and ground level winds will carry the smoke from his/her controlled burn. Regulations implementing the state Clean Air Act state that the grower must burn only when:
 - “Wind takes the smoke away from roads, homes, population centers, or other public areas, to the greatest extent possible.” (WAC 173-430-070)
 - “No person shall cause or permit the emission of any air contaminant from any source if it is detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of any person, or causes damage to property or business.” [WAC 173-400-040(5)]It is also the growers responsibility to not burn when high surface winds will not allow the smoke to rise. As a general rule, many experts suggest that if it is too windy to spray- it is too windy to burn.
- 3. If you are demonstrating necessity to burn by use of a Best Management Practice, you certify that you have read and understand and will follow the Best Management Practices specific to this type of burning and believe the proposed burning is reasonably necessary and no practical alternative exists.**
- 4. Burn only natural vegetation.** No burning of garbage, dead animals, asphalt, petroleum products, paints, rubber products, plastics, paper, cardboard, lumber, construction, or demolition debris, metal or any substance (other than natural vegetation) that normally releases toxic emissions, dense smoke, or obnoxious odors when burned. (WAC 173-425-050)
- 5. Consider protection of wildlife areas by timing of the burn or other appropriate measure.** Generally, wildlife areas may include tree and shrub areas, riparian areas with trees and shrubs, woodlands, eyebrows with dense tree and shrub cover and CRP stands.
- 6. Attend the fire at all times.**
- 7. Keep a burn permit at the burn site while burning is being conducted.**
- 8. Submit a post-burn report within 7 days of the burn to the permitting authority.** The report shall include: Grower’s name, permit number, county, acres burned, burn date, legal description, time burn ignited, time the burn is out, surface wind direction and speed when the fire is ignited and throughout the duration of the burn.
- 9. You certify that you are a verified commercial agricultural operation as defined in WAC 173-430.**
- 10. You agree to grant the Department of Ecology (Ecology)** or their duly authorized representatives **access to** the acreage listed on any agricultural burning permit, including those private roads or access ways under your control that are required to obtain access to the listed acreage for the purpose of investigating conditions specific to any agricultural burning permit issued by the Ecology or a delegated permitting authority. To the extent reasonable and consistent with carrying out the duties of the agricultural burning permitting program you will be notified and given the option to accompany Ecology, or their duly authorized representatives, when accessing your property.

I have read and understand and agree to abide by the conditions above and those contained in the permit.

Signature _____

Date _____

Printed name _____

Ecology is an Equal Opportunity Employer

ECY 020-32 inst (3/01)

White Original- Permitting Authority
Yellow Copy- Applicant